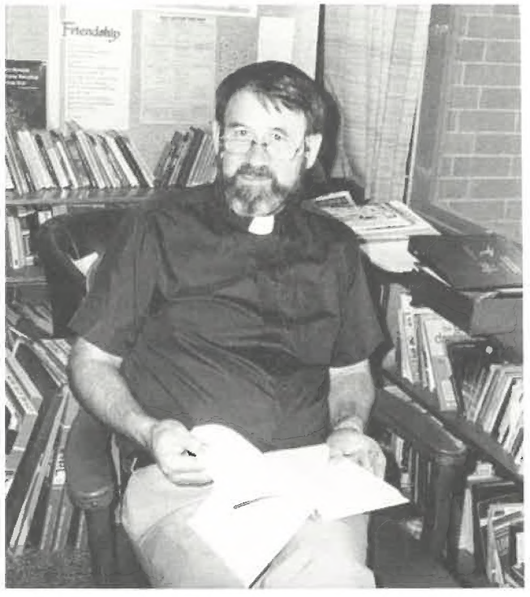
THE CHURCH ARMY COLLEGE OF EVANGELISM

Fifteen years ago the then Federal Director, Captain Dick Gwilt, told of a dream he had for the Church Army Training College. Since its founding in 1934, Church Army had had its own College training a small number of officers each year. Captain Gwilt envisaged the development of our small College (then catering for approx. eight students) into "an action centre" (his words).

He suggested programmes for training lay people from surrounding parishes and also for preparing lay evangelists for overseas missionary agencies (e.g. C.M.S., A.B.M., and S.A.M.S.), thus developing a resource centre which provided in-service training at the College and in the field for both clergy, laity, and our Church Army field staff. Finally he recommended that the centre might also become a place for research and development of training resources for use by the Church throughout Australia.

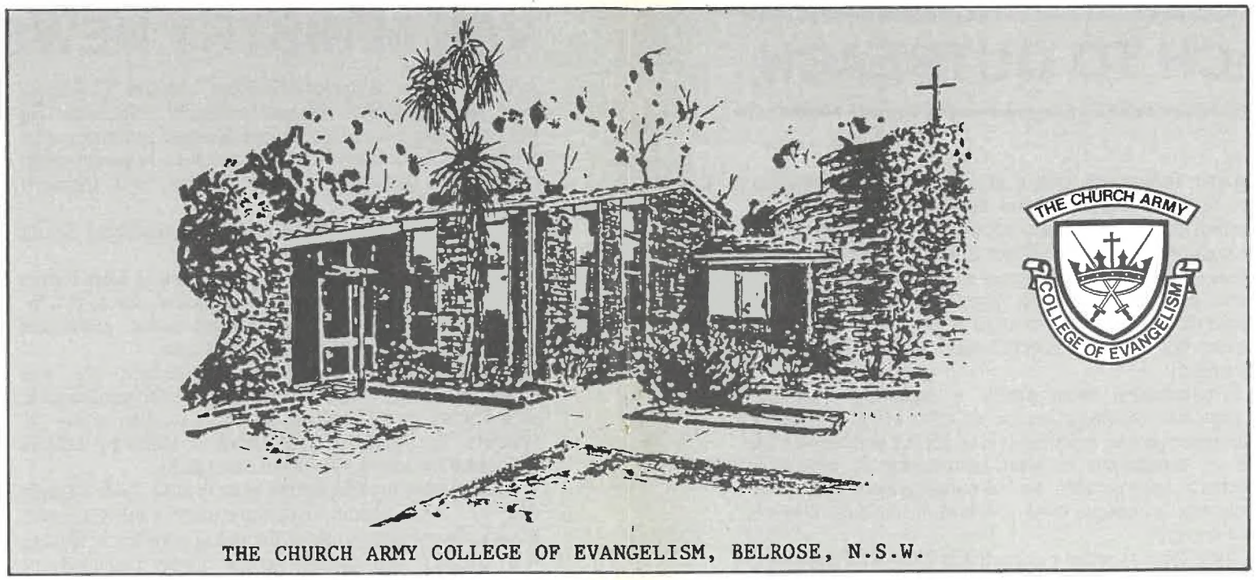
Thirteen years ago the Rev. Graeme MacRobb was appointed Principal of the College to develop a wider Church Army ministry at and through the College at Belrose. This has resulted in a multi-faceted ministry which is providing evangelistic training, etc. in many parishes throughout Australia.



Rev. Graeme MacRobb, College Principal.

HELP TO PARISHES

The College Staff join with Federal Office personnel in Parish Consultancy work and Weekend Teaching programmes in parishes. This year's bookings already include Bunbury, Perth, Cairns, Yarrabah, Townsville, Gladstone, Bilowela, Canberra and a number of parishes in Sydney and Newcastle.



THE CHURCH ARMY COLLEGE OF EVANGELISM, BELROSE, N.S.W.

COLLEGE LIFE

A record 18 students are now enrolled at the Church Army College to study for full-time ministry. Thirteen, pending graduation, will be evangelists with the Church Army in Australia. Two are training for the New Zealand Church Army. Two are independent students and one is from the South Pacific doing a special one-year course in Leadership and Ministry Skills. Over the past few years, evangelists trained at the College have been accepted for overseas ministry by both A.B.M. and C.M.S.

College life—students Andrew Mallas and Elverina Murgha.

MISSIONS

Each year Church Army conducts evangelistic missions all over Australia. Church Army students take part in these missions as part of their practical training. Missions are usually held in parishes, though occasionally also in schools, and other places.

Often Church Army personnel assist other Anglican Missioners in their missions, providing children's ministry, youth outreach and music ministry. Specialist mission work is carried out by the "I" Witness 'Van Ministry. A mobile unit that works for three months in a parish, training and helping parishioners to develop skills and abilities for community outreach.

Mission work.

CHURCH ARMY TRAINING

Church Army regularly conducts in-service training programmes for clergy usually at a Diocesan level. They also contribute "on-the-job" training at several theological colleges.

It is expected that Church Army will play an increasing role in the areas of Evangelism, Lay Training, Church Growth, Counselling and Youth Ministry aspects of clergy training.

In-service study programmes are also available which can be run without Church Army staff. These are ideal for use in isolated areas.

PART-TIME STUDY

Last year approximately 150 people attended part-time courses at the College. These ranged from Youth Leadership; Counselling; Biblical Studies; Communication and Relationships; Living More Effectively; Personal Evangelism and Pastoral Care. Many of these courses involved built in transferable concepts and have resulted in people trained at the College running similar programmes in their own parishes. This year we will take many of these training courses into other parts of Sydney and on a weekend basis to other Australian Dioceses.

LAITY TRAINING RESOURCES

A number of courses developed at the College have now been organised in such a way for them to be used by parishes anywhere in the country with or without C.A. staff to assist. These include Friendship Evangelism, the Ministry of Caring, Teaching Sunday Schools, and Working Together for Growth. The College is especially interested in future development of Parish Teaching resources to meet the great need for better Confirmation preparation, and materials to help parishes prepare little children for early communion. A Leadership Development programme is also in preparation.

VIDEO RESOURCES

House Groups throughout Australia tell us they need learning as well as fellowship and mutual care. To meet this demand, the College has developed a wide range of discussion programmes to go with the many video teaching programmes becoming available. Every week hundreds of sets of notes for use with videos are sent out to parishes all over Australia. A wide range of overseas teachers are now being balanced with the increasing availability of video presentations by top Australian Churchmen.

NEWS

Church Army Movements

Captain Peter Adkins from Church Army College of Evangelism, Belrose, N.S.W., to Youth Co-ordinator, Bundaberg, Diocese of Brisbane.

Captain Brad Aitken, from Balwyn North, Melbourne, to Youth Director, Western Region Melbourne Diocese.

Captain Michael Calder from Church Army College of Evangelism, Belrose, N.S.W., to Chaplain to Missions to Seamen, Dampier, Diocese of North West Australia.

Captain Tom Clarke from Summerhill, Launceston, Tasmania, to Parish Evangelist Brighton, Diocese of Tasmania.

Captain Keith Downing from Parramatta, Sydney to Diocesan Evangelism Officer, Bendigo and Parish Evangelist, Heathcote, Bendigo Diocese.

Captain Jack Harradine from the Church Army College of Evangelism, Belrose, N.S.W., to Evangelist to aboriginal people, Rockhampton.

Captain John McKim, Diocesan Youth and Education Officer, Bendigo to Dean of Students, Church Army College of Evangelism, Belrose, N.S.W.

Captain Conrad Parsons, from the Church Army College of Evangelism, Belrose, N.S.W. to Youth and Parish Evangelist, Botany/Mascot, Sydney Diocese.

Captain Barry Thatcher from Revesby, Sydney to Parish Evangelist and Youth Worker, Murwillumbah, Grafton Diocese.

WEDDINGS ✡ ENGAGEMENTS ✡

Captain Michael Calder—Miss Wendy Redman. Married December 19th, 1987 at Belmont (Newcastle), N.S.W.

Captain Barry Thatcher—Miss Bronwyn Tarrier married 30.1.88 at St. Andrew's South Brisbane, Queensland.

Sister Jenny Read—Mr Wayne Olsen. Engaged to be married 8th October, 1988 at St. Martin's, Kensington (Sydney).

Mr Andrew Malcolm (son of Bishop and Mrs Arthur Malcolm)—**Miss Joy Yeatman.** Engaged to be married 21st May, 1988 at St. Alban's, Yarrabah, Qld.

Mr Donald Hellyer—Miss Andrea Payne (daughter of Captain and Mrs Neil Payne). Engaged to be married.

Mr Murray Hair (student at the Church Army College)—**Miss Robyn Lloyd.** Engaged to be married.

RESIGNATIONS

Captain Ron Griffin.
Captain Gilbert Page.

Moving out— Moving on ...

Some "Pioneer" readers may have read in the Church press that Captain Gilbert Page will resign as Federal Director of the Church Army in Australia at the end of this year. He says: "It is my carefully and prayerfully considered judgement, that 1989 is the correct time for the Society to have a change of leadership".

Gilbert first joined the English Church Army in 1957, and took up his present duties here on 1st January, 1979. He was commissioned for the position by Bishop Jack Dain in St. Andrew's Cathedral, Sydney.

The old hymn writer states: "Change and decay in all around I see". That is far from the truth when one looks at the many and exciting forms of evangelism being carried out by the Church Army. In our case, we believe that change can be one of the signs of growth. Captain Page says: "No true evangelist will ever be out of work—until the Lord returns." He is convinced the Lord has new and even more wonderful things in store for a Society of men and women who rely wholly upon their great God—who are determined to help others come to know Jesus.

Please pray for the Executive Board as the members carefully consider the person to be appointed as the new Director. We will keep Pioneer readers fully informed of developments as decisions are made.

Captain Gilbert and Mrs Ruth Page.

DEAN OF STUDENTS

Captain John McKim.

Captain John McKim has been appointed Dean of Students at the Church Army College of Evangelism. The position involves supervision of students in College, day to day management, and overall administration of the College.

"One exciting aspect of my work", says John, "will be the development and maintenance of the worship life of the College community. I'm also lecturing on Youth Ministry, Communications and Relationships, the Ministry of Reflection, and Old Testament, Th.A."

Commissioned in 1984, he has for the past three years been the Youth and Education Officer for the Diocese of Bendigo. During this period, he was invited to be on the Executive for the General Board of Religious Education.

With students.

He will continue to work one day a week for G.B.R.E. as its Co-ordinator for National Anglican Youth Unit (N.A.Y.U.).

Some of his youth work experience was gained as Administration Secretary and Youth Worker at St. Andrew's Cathedral (Sydney) prior to his coming to Church Army. Before full-time Christian work, he was a successful insurance broker.

A keen photographer, he also enjoys squash and windsurfing. John will soon be living at the College on the completion of a cottage being built in the grounds. He is now living and commuting from his family home at Lindfield, a north shore suburb of Sydney.

YOU'RE DEAD RIGHT?

Isn't it sad that the nicest things we say about people is at their funerals.

It highlights the truth of the old Welsh proverb: "if you would have praise, die."

Not that it's wrong to praise the dead. A clergyman in England recently got into trouble by vigorously attacking the character of the man he was burying. Whatever the truth of his attack, the timing was all wrong.

Why not praise people when they are still alive to hear it? Why not affirm them while that affirmation can do some good?

Afraid that others will get swelled heads? That's their problem! Besides, affirmation isn't flattery. We shouldn't be blind to others' failings.

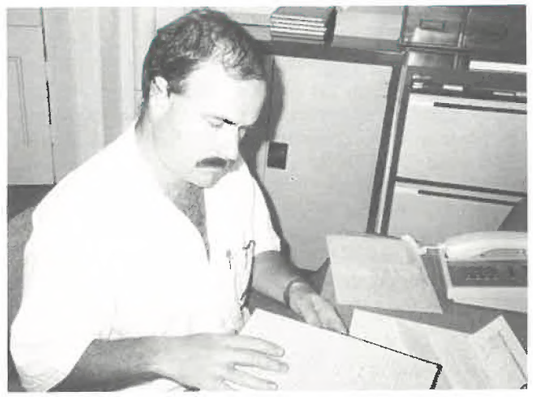
But for many of us, we are only too well aware of these failings. Any good points are overwhelmed by the irritations.

We need to see people as God intended them to be; what they could be once restored to his friendship. If we focus on their worst features, there is little chance of improvement. Affirmation isn't just appropriate for young children. We need it all our lives.

And leaving it for too long may mean leaving it too late.

REV. DAVID REAY
Rector of St. Stephens, Belrose
Chaplain Church Army College of Evangelism

A MESSAGE OF HOPE



Captain Guy Davidson, Senior Counsellor.

The following interview was taken from the soon to be released Church Army video, "God's Stirrers", a profile on Church Army and its ministry.

David Reay: Guy Davidson, tell us about your ministry.

Guy Davidson: David, I work at Kings Cross in a hostel run by St. John's Anglican Church. It's for people with A.I.D.S. We try to support them and give them temporary accommodation while they are waiting for results from tests and treatment. This is a period when there is a lot of stress and grief in working out their status in regards to their problem.

David Reay: You mentioned stress and grief, some of that stress and grief must be yours as well. Does it ever appear hopeless, the ministry you're in?

Guy Davidson: David, it's really important if you are going to work with people, to get alongside them and to identify with them to a certain degree. I don't think you can help becoming involved emotionally if you want to effectively work with them. I'm trained as an evangelist not a social worker, but where I think I have the advantage is that I bring with me a message of hope. You asked me whether I see it as a hopeless situation or not? I definitely don't, because I know and believe in a God who redeems all situations to His purpose.

You know, I think the Church has a wonderful challenge in this A.I.D.S. issue. To have a voice, to have a say, to get involved, to muck in and to really represent Christ in a sacrificial, vulnerable way—it's a wonderful opportunity, it's God-given. It mirrors where the Church in the past has made itself vulnerable for those who have been the lepers of society. These people took risks and witnessed to the love of Jesus Christ in a very real and practical hands-on way.

David Reay: Being an evangelist in that situation must have changed you?

Guy Davidson: Working in the Cross has changed me! I've come to the point where I realise that, yes, there are real and definite answers in the bible, but for people when you get into their problems, very often there are no easy answers. It means you have to work more closely and more committedly with them. And that's something I am still learning to do!

David Reay: Guy, does it motivate you as you work at Kings Cross, to know that Jesus Christ died for those people you are ministering to?

Guy Davidson: It's very hard for people outside to see that anyone who's in the gutter, or who fills their veins with heroin, or would prostitute themselves, would be valuable enough for God to have any feelings for. Yet the wonderful thing is that I think it's possible the lower you go the more Christ died for you and the Gospel comes alive in situations in which there is the greatest need.

David Reay: Do you find it hard to love people who sometimes do unlovely things?

Guy Davidson: Yes, but you have to look past their unlovely things and see that often people do unlovely things, because they've had a lot of unlovely things done to them. They need compassion. For instance, just recently a young man who was involved in prostitution, had A.I.D.S. And knowing he had A.I.D.S., used a needle and then shared it with some of his mates. This put them at such desperate risk. He's just a kid who lives in a fantasy world, and though it was a despicable act, he is in need of love.

Sometimes you're at your wits end to know how to respond to needs. My own personal resources peter out. I become so aware of my own shortcomings. All I'm left with is to cry out to God, and say "God you intervene in this person's life, I can't do it!"

Captain Guy Davidson was commissioned as a Church Army Officer in late 1983. Married to Christine, they live in Kings Cross. Guy and Christine's common interests include music. Christine plays the piano and Guy the guitar and banjo. Both enjoy singing. Other hobbies for Guy are fishing, squash and soccer.

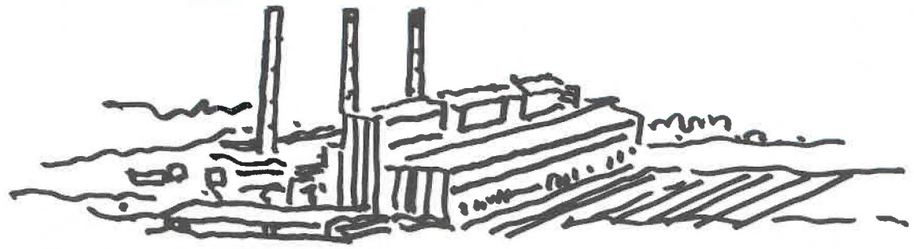
Christine has a secretarial and administrative position with a management company that organises tours in Australia for fine arts performing groups.

Guy has worked in Kings Cross for a little over two years. Prior to this appointment, he was Parish Evangelist at St. Paul's Anglican Church, Wahroonga.

Rev. David Reay, Rector of St. Stephen's Belrose, N.S.W. and Chaplain to the Church Army College, is the presenter and anchor man in the video, "God's Stirrers!"

An exuberant banjo player with Captain Mark Rogers on guitar.

LIFE IN THE RUST BELT, U.S.A.



Sister Carol Tokley.

Seven and a-half miles of empty steel mills mark the entrance to Aliquippa, PA. In the midst of a small town struggling for existence, the Community of Celebration has made its home.

The Community of Celebration is an Episcopalian Religious Order consisting of families and single people committed to a common life of liturgical worship and prayer. The community provides worship resources for the church around the world. A diversity of cultural expressions are found in the songs which we sing—including some lovely aboriginal folk melodies!

The Fisherfolk, our outreach travelling team, have just returned from a tour of the U.K. After a week's rest, they will take off again, this time for Canada. The Fisherfolk are the outreach expression of the common life we share and they carry our worship resources through the medium of concerts and conference workshops. Feedback from the 1986 extensive Australian tour has been very positive.

Those of us who remain at home are involved in various activities, ranging from Celebration business related pursuits in the research and development of various worship resources, to making endless cups of WONDERFUL American coffee; from supporting unemployed steel workers in their struggle for justice, to general homemaking duties. My day-to-day life is very full; keeping our mail-list up to date, secretarial duties, worship leadership, occasional outside ministries, involvement in preparation for a children's Christmas recording, parish pastoral involvement, are some of the things I might be found doing—life is certainly not boring!

In the midst of the poverty that surrounds us I am deeply aware of the abundance of God's goodness and the growing signs of hope he is providing in this area. I was recently moved and challenged after reading an article by Henri Nouwen on "Radical Prayer"; he concludes: ". . . Prayer means letting God's creative love touch the most hidden places of our being, and letting Jesus' way of the cross, his way of downward mobility, truly become our way. And prayer means listening with attentive hearts to the inner movements of the Spirit of Jesus, even when that Spirit leads us to places we would rather not go."

We are living in a society in which making it to the top is expected in some degree of all of us. But God's way is not the way of upward mobility but of downward mobility. The question we will finally hear is not going to be: 'How much progress did you make in your career?' No, the question for us will be: 'What did you do for the least of mine? What did you do for the lonely, the prisoners, the refugees within and below your borders, and the hungry all over the world? Have you seen the humiliated Christ in the faces of the poor?'

Sister Carol Tokley, C.A.

EDITOR—Carol Tokley is on leave of absence gaining further experience with the Community of Celebration. Prior to being with them in the U.S.A., she lived and worked with them in Scotland.

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THE CHURCH ARMY IN AUSTRALIA

A Society of Evangelists within the Anglican Church

PRESIDENT: The Most Reverend J. B. R. Grindrod, M.A., K.B.E.

PATRONS: The Archbishops and Bishops of Australia.

EXECUTIVE BOARD: The Rt. Rev. H. A. J. Witt (Chairman), Mr P. J. Evans (Treasurer), Mr K. Alexander, the Rev. S. L. Benson, the Rev. B. J. Bevis, Miss P. Byron, Mr D. Coburn, Mr C. Crittle, the Rev. Canon R. F. Gray, the Rt. Rev. R. H. Goodhew, the Rev. J. R. Henderson, the Rev. J. Lawton, Mr K. Llewellyn, the Ven. R. D. Bowden, Deaconess, M. A. Rodgers, Mr J. Mills.

Message FROM THE FEDERAL DIRECTOR

STILL LIFE?

Captain Gilbert Page, C.A.

The words almost seem a contradiction in terms . . . unless you think about the painting in an Art Gallery of an orange and two apples sitting patiently in a bowl on the table. Nice to look at—yes. An interesting study in relationships—perhaps. But not very much to grab you by way of activity.

I sometimes think that unfortunately this is rather what many people see when they look at the Church in our day. Not too much going on to attract the attention of those outside. Little which causes others to want to come near and be involved.

Of course, there is the vital need to wait upon God; to be quiet in his presence; to patiently discover His will; to be open to the gentle revelation of the Spirit. But if a human body stays too long in any one position, there is the danger of some limbs losing at least part of the ability to be fully used. Ask any nurse. Have you ever woken in the night to find your arm has "gone to sleep"?

You may also have experienced "pins and needles" in a leg that has stayed so long in a particular way, the circulation is affected. Maybe the Lord wants to "prick" his Church—the Body of Christ—into action, so it may achieve its full potential.

Busyness for its own sake will be counter-productive. However, during this Bicentennial year in Australia, Christians do need to get out with the Gospel. We must show the attractiveness of a life filled with the love of Jesus. A community just cannot ignore the witness of Christians who are so concerned about others, they share in word and deed what God has done in their own lives.

Thank God there is still Life in any Church—your Church. Make sure it is not Still life.

Gilbert A. Page.

THE CHURCH ARMY IN AUSTRALIA

P.O. BOX 107, FRENCHS FOREST, N.S.W. 2086

FEDERAL OFFICE		
COLLEGE OF EVANGELISM	Wyatt Avenue, Belrose, N.S.W. (Tel.: 451 8395, 451 0928)	
FEDERAL DIRECTOR	Capt. G. A. Page, C.A.	
STAFF/ADMIN. OFFICER	Capt. B. R. Mattinson, C.A.	
COLLEGE PRINCIPAL	Rev. G. L. MacRobb, Th.L., Dip.R.E., Dip.Min., M.A.C.E.	
DEAN OF STUDENTS	Capt. J. McKim, C.A.	
PUBLICITY/DEVELOPMENT	Wal Spencer (Tel.: 451 8395)	Tel.: (049) 29 3160
CHURCH army BOOKSHOP	14 Perkins Street, Newcastle, N.S.W.	Tel.: (049) 29 1993
BOOKSHOP MANAGER	Capt. N. A. Payne, C.A.	

CHURCH ARMY COMMISSIONING

(Left to Right, Back Row): Captain Brian Mattinson (Staff Officer), Rev. Graeme MacRobb (College Principal), Bishop Bruce Wilson, Rev. Brian King, Captain Gilbert Page (Federal Director).

(Left to Right, Front Row): Captain Conrad Parsons, Captain Peter Adkins, Captain Michael Calder, Captain Jack Harradine (new officers).

About 450 people attended the Commissioning Service held at St. Matthew's, Manly on December 10th, 1987. Four students of the Church Army College of Evangelism were admitted to the office of Evangelist by the Rt. Rev. Bruce Wilson, of Canberra/Goulburn Diocese on behalf of the Primate. They were also Commissioned as Church Army Officers by Captain Gilbert Page, Federal Director of the Church Army. The students were Peter Adkins, Michael Calder, Jack Harradine and Conrad Parsons.

Four others, two students Jill Arkell and David O'Mara, together with Gwen Adkins and Lily Harradine, wives of Peter Adkins and Jack Harradlne, were sent forth with a blessing for other ministries of Evangelism and pastoral care.

Parts of the Service were led by Rev. David Reay, College Chaplain and Rev. Brian King, Rector of St. Matthew's. Sister Jenny Read sang a special musical item.

The Commissioning address was given by Bishop Wilson.

Most of the congregatlon gathered for supper In the Parish Hall after the Service.

NEW STUDENTS

Mr Brian Ford is from Seven Hills, N.S.W. Prior to coming to College, Brian worked as a theatre orderly at Blacktown Hospital. Brian's field placement is Sans Souci with the Rev. David West.

Mr Ian Freestone comes from Armidale, N.S.W. Ian is married to Kathy who is a P.E. teacher at the Covenant Christian School, Belrose. For the past two years, Ian was the Youth Director at Armidale Cathedral Parish. Field placement for Ian is at the local parish, Belrose, with Rev. David Reay.

Mr Murray Hair from Darwin, N.T. For the past 18 months, Murray has lived at Wahroonga, working as a fitter and turner. Murray's field placement will be working with Rev. Richard Andrew.

Miss Pamela Heale is from Darlinghurst, N.S.W. Pamela worked as a senior accounts clerk with the Australian Electoral Office. Her field work placement is with Rev. John Mclntosh at Kensington, N.S.W.

Mr Peter Hewitt comes to us from Elizabeth Bay, N.S.W. (before that Wahroonga). Prior to College, he worked as part of the team ministry in Darlinghurst Anglican Parish with a special responsibility for outreach through P.J.'s Coffee Shop. Gorokan on the Central Coast in the Newcastle diocese is his field placement with Rev. Graham McLeod.

Mrs Jane Ingham is an independent student from Fairlight, N.S.W. Her husband, Peter, is a mining engineer. Field placement will be in her home parish, Balgowlah.

Mr Trace Kennard comes from Como, N.S.W. Prior to College, he worked as a courier. This year's field placement work will be with Rev. David Luke at Hornsby Heights, N.S.W.

Mr Jon Martin is from Bendigo, Victoria. Jon previously was with G.J. Coles as a trainee manager. Jon's field attachment will be working with Captain John Harding at Claymore, an outer western suburb of Sydney.

(Left to Right, Back Row): Peter Hewitt, Brian Ford, Trace Kennard, Murray Hair, Ian Freestone, Bruce Ollington, Jon Martin.

(Left to Right, Front Row): Jane Ingham, Michelle Thiemeyer, Christina Ryman, Pamela Heale, Timothy Scheuer.

Mr Bruce Ollington is also from Bendigo Victoria. Bruce is a qualified electrician. Field placement work will be with Rev. Brian Seers at Millers Point (The Rocks), N.S.W.

Mr Timothy Scheuer is originally from Ohio, U.S.A. but has lived in Ryde, N.S.W. for the past five years. He is married to Jenny and they have a 3-year-old son, Andrew. For the past few years, Tim has worked as part-time storeman and part-time youth worker with Ryde Parish and Y.W.A.M. Field placement is at Balgowlah where the Rector is Rev. Baden Wynn.

Miss Christina Ryman is from Hornsby, N.S.W. but has not long returned from missionary work as a trainer of midwives and nurses in Irian Jaya and Papua New Guinea. Christina is an independent student doing a one year course at the College. She will also be doing part-time nursing.

Miss Michelle Thiemeyer is from Gymea, N.S.W. She is a qualified youth worker and has worked for the past year at the Kings Cross Shelter for Homeless Youth. South Hurstville will be her parish for field work where the Rector is Rev. Ken Le'Huray.